

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-3, 5-10 and 12-18 are now presented for examination. Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record. No new matter is believed to have been added. Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 are the only independent claims.

Claims 1 through 3, 5 through 10, and 12 through 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 5,963,255 (Anderson, et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,949,484 (Nakaya, et al.). With regard to the claims as currently amended, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 1 and 8 as currently amended are directed to an image processing arrangement in which a recording unit records given image data or data other than the image data on a recording medium. A display unit displays the image. A power supply unit supplies electric power to the display unit. A judging unit judges, during the time when an image is confirmed in an image reproduction mode, if a power supply capacity becomes smaller than a predetermined first capacity. A control unit turns off the display unit when the judging result in relation to the first capacity is affirmative. When the display unit is turned off during the time the image is confirmed in the image reproduction mode, an indicating unit having a lower power consumption than the display unit is turned on to indicate that a process is being executed and writing of data left to be stored is performed.

Independent Claims 16 and 17 as currently amended are directed to an image processing arrangement in which a recording unit records image data or data other than the image in a recording medium. A display unit displays the image data on a display device. A power supply

unit supplies electric power to the image processing apparatus. A judging unit judges, during the time when an image is confirmed in an image reproduction mode, if the power supply capacity becomes smaller than a predetermined first capacity. A control unit controls turning off the display device when the judging result in relation to the first capacity is affirmative. A power supply control unit reduces the electric power to be supplied to the image processing apparatus while assuring electric power to be supplied to the recording unit when the supply capacity becomes smaller than the predetermined first capacity. When the power supply control unit reduces the electric power to be supplied to the image processing apparatus, the display device is turned off and an indicating unit is turned on to indicate that a process is being executed. Power consumption of the indicating unit is lower than power consumption of the display device.

In Applicant's view, Anderson et al. discloses an arrangement for managing battery utilization in which a power supply provides a voltage to a digital camera. If the power supply voltage falls below a predetermined threshold, a voltage sensor generates a signal to a power manager. In response, the power manager configures the camera into a lower power consumption state. As the power source weakens further, the power manager continues to place the camera into a lower and lower power consumption state, until the power source is exhausted. The method of the present invention preferably includes of monitoring the power source's voltage, generating a signal if that voltage falls below a pre-determined threshold, and reducing the camera's power consumption in response to the signal.

In Applicant's opinion, Nakaya et al. discloses portable terminal apparatus in which the electric power consumption by the terminal used for communication of multimedia information is controlled by changing the quality of transmitted information. The terminal is provided with

input through which such information as images and sounds is inputted, channel control sections which output the input information to channels and receive information from the channels, output which output the information received from the channels in the form of images, sounds, etc., a codec which is provided between the input and output and the control sections, encodes the input information in one of multiple encoding modes in which electric power is differently consumed, and decodes the information inputted from the channels, and a control section which controls the selection of the encoding mode. This terminal can continue information communication for a required period of time at minimum power consumption at the sacrifice of the quality of transmitted information. Therefore, either the power consumption or quality of information can be adequately selected according to the transmission.

According to the invention of Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 that an image display device is turned off if it is judged that the capacity of a power supply becomes smaller than a predetermined capacity. When the image display device is turned off during the time the image is confirmed in the image reproduction mode, an indicating device having lower power consumption than the display device is turned on to indicate that a process is being executed and writing of data to be stored is performed. Advantageously, excess power consumption is prevented and a user can recognize that the image process is under way. These features of Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 are disclosed from line 27 of page 19 to line 18 of page 20 in the specification as originally filed.

Anderson et al. may teach inhibiting a new image or data other than the new image from being recorded after completion of writing to the recording means when a judging result judges that power supply capacity becomes smaller than a first capacity. Anderson only discloses that in

response to a signal that power supply voltage falling below a predetermined threshold, a power manager configures a camera into a lower power consumption state and continues to place the camera into a lower and lower power consumption state until the power source is exhausted.

Anderson et al., however, fails to teach or suggest the feature of Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 that a display device is turned off when it is judged that the power supply capacity is smaller than a first capacity in an image reproduction confirmation mode combined with the feature of an indicating unit of lower power consumption than the display device being turned on to indicate that a process is being executed and writing of data left to be stored is performed when the display device is turned off during the time the image is confirmed in the image reproduction mode.

Nakaya et al. may teach that when a battery remaining amount becomes lower than a constant amount, the backlight of a liquid crystal display is automatically darkened and/or an alarm message is displayed on a display. There is, however, no suggestion in Nakaya et al. of the feature of Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 of turning on an indicating device to indicate a process is being executed when a display device is turned off during the time an image is confirmed in an image reproduction mode in response to power supply capacity being lower than a predetermined first capacity.

Neither Anderson et al. nor Nakaya et al. suggests the turn on of an indicating device in response to turn off of an image display device upon judging of a power supply reduction during confirmation of an image reproduction mode. As a result, it is not seen that the addition of Nakaya et al.'s darkening of an LCD backlight and/or alarm upon reduction of battery amount to Anderson et al.'s configuring a camera into lower and lower power consumption states with less available power until the power source is exhausted in any manner suggests turning off an image

display device during the time the image is confirmed in the image reproduction mode if it is judged that the capacity of a power supply becomes smaller than a predetermined capacity combined with an indicating device having lower power consumption than the display device being turned on to indicate that a process is being executed and writing of data to be stored is performed when the image display device is turned off as in Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17.

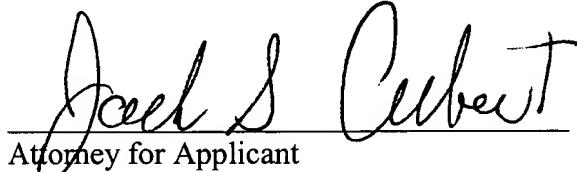
Accordingly, it is believed that Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 as currently amended are completely distinguished from any combination of Anderson et al. and Nakaya et al. and are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 8, 16 and 17 are allowable over the cited art whether taken individually or in combination.

Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15 and 18 depend either directly or indirectly from one of independent Claims 1 and 8 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency and in their own right for further defining Applicants' invention. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant's attorney, Daniel S. Glueck, may be reached in our Washington, D.C., office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jack S. Cubert", written over a horizontal line.

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